

**Innovation Fair Matchmaker Grants
2006-2007
Process**

Directions for the Innovations Fair:

- Visit the booths and presentations
- Complete the Intent to Apply form and obtain Superintendents' signature; form requires signatures from both districts
- Superintendents from mentee districts must prioritize their Intent to Apply forms if the district is requesting multiple grants
- Participants submit the completed and signed Intent to Apply forms to the Department's table at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 4, 2006
- Department staff will review all forms and make recommendations to the Commissioner
- Commissioner will approve the Intent to Apply forms for the selected districts/schools and announce the award winners at the Department's K-12 meeting on Thursday, October 5, 2006, at 7:30 – 8:30 a.m
- Applications are due November 6, 2006

Guidelines for the Mentor and Mentee Districts/Schools

Mentor District/School

- Sell your program!!!!
- Share your successes and lessons learned
- Share obstacles/barriers that you had to overcome
- Share the research and student achievement data
- Share why your school chose to embrace the academy approach
- Offer information related to student/program and teacher certifications
- Share how you recruited partners
- Share how you successfully integrated academic and career education
- Shop the Innovation Fair for possible partnerships to add another academy/program to your school

Mentee District/School

- Take your time
- Visit all of the booths and participate in the concurrent sessions
- Ask questions regarding the program's research
- Ask questions regarding student achievement data
- Consider your district's commitment of resources to support your school's planning and implementation efforts
- Consider the needs of the community when deciding on your career academy focus
- Ask about successful student and teacher recruitment efforts
- Ask expected costs and expenses for developing and implementing the program
- Ask for strategies for evaluating the success of the academy/innovative program